

Message Text

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S:PEBARBIAN

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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R 142217Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T STATE 090187

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IR, US

SUBJECT: PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON SECRETARY

1. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR YAQUB CALLED ON THE SECRETARY APRIL 12 TO DELIVER BHUTTO'S WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF MARCH 19 ASKING PAKISTAN TO RECONSIDER ITS PLANS TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR REPROCESSING AND HEAVY WATER FACILITIES. AFTER READING THE LETTER, THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE RESPONSE WAS DRAFTED WITH GREAT CARE AND THAT HE WOULD STUDY THE LETTER FURTHER. IN REGARD TO A REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF A MULTINATIONAL REPROCESSING FACILITY, THE SECRETARY ASKED WHAT COUNTRIES PAKISTAN MIGHT HAVE IN MIND. YAQUB INDICATED THEY WERE THINKING OF IRAN.

2. YAQUB ALSO RAISED PAKISTANI CONCERNS ABOUT THE PACE AT WHICH ARMS TRANSACTIONS WERE BEING WORKED OUT, SAYING
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THAT AZIZ AHMED HAD ASKED HIM TO SEE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE.

YAQUB ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOME DELAYS WERE DUE TO THE PAKISTANI SIDE, BUT CITED DIFFICULTY IN GETTING LETTERS OF OFFER ON CERTAIN ITEMS AS A PARTICULAR CONCERN. DUBS (NEA) SAID THERE HAD BEEN SOME PROBLEMS, MAINLY DUE TO BUREAUCRATIC PROCEDURES, BUT INDICATED THAT WE WERE NOW READY TO MOVE AHEAD ON BOTH THE TOW SALE AND AN AMMUNITION

ORDER WORTH SOME DOLS 36 MILLION. THE SECRETARY ASKED FOR A STATUS REPORT ON ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN.

3. INDICATING THAT HIS FINAL POINT WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PAKISTAN, YAQUB REFERRED TO PAKISTAN'S PROPOSAL FOR A NEW AGREEMENT OF MUTUAL SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG TURKEY, IRAN AND PAKISTAN WHICH BHUTTO HAD EARLIER DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR BYROADE. YAQUB SAID THAT PAKISTAN WAS ANXIOUS FOR OUR REACTIONS. THE SECRETARY INDICATED THAT THE USG WOULD BASICALLY LEAVE THIS UP TO PAKISTAN. HE SAID WE HAD TAKEN SOME SOUNDINGS IN IRAN WHICH INDICATED SOME RESERVATIONS, BUT THAT WE COULD BE MISTAKEN ON THE IRANIAN ATTITUDE. HE STRESSED THAT WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE OR WORK AGAINST SUCH AN AGREEMENT ON THE ONE HAND OR ENCOURAGE IT ON THE OTHER, ADDING THAT SINCE ALL THE COUNTRIES WERE WITH US IN CENTO THERE WOULD BE NO REASON FOR US TO OBJECT TO THEM HAVING ANOTHER LINK OUTSIDE OF CENTO. KISSINGER

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